

A Bachelor's Degree or Better



Higher

Jobs that require substantial investment in formal training or education are some of the best jobs because they are in demand and pay well. This group of jobs is comprised of five education and training categories: first professional degree, doctoral degree, master's degree, bachelor's degree plus work experience, and bachelor's degree. Individuals in these occupations have invested a minimum of four-to-five years of schooling beyond the high school level. Some have been in formal postsecondary training for over twice that long. In Utah, 28 percent of the population has a bachelor's degree or beyond.

Some people view this group of degrees as a two-tiered system. First is the attainment of the bachelor's degree. The second tier includes those that take the next step and pursue a graduate level degree. This can be a master's, a PhD, or a professional degree (doctor or lawyer, for example). You can refer to the box for examples of each group, and a link is provided to a list jobs by training level with at least 100 workers employed in Utah.

Doctors and Lawyers and Such

The occupations requiring the most training are the group called "first professional degree." These jobs require the completion of a degree, usually at least three years of full-time academic study beyond a bachelor's degree. Here are the doctors, lawyers, pharmacists, and the like. This is a select group with some 20 occupations accounting for only about 1.3 percent of total employment in the economy.

Doctoral Degree

Just over 30 job titles are included in this group. Most are those individuals holding PhDs who teach in colleges and universities. Other titles include mathematicians, biochemists, physicists and other medical scientists. PhDs account for smaller piece of the total employment pie than the first professional degree group.

Master's Degree

There are approximately 40 occupations included in this list. They make up about 1.5 percent of total employment. The job titles with the most employment are educational, vocational, and school counselors and mental health and substance abuse social workers.

Bachelor's Degree Plus Experience

This is a second largest group accounting for about four percent of all jobs. It is dominated by managerial occupations where the worker has a bachelor's degree and has worked his/her way up to positions like the chief executive officer, finance manager, management analyst, or, in the teaching profession, a vocational education teacher at the middle, secondary or postsecondary level.

Bachelor's Degree

Over half of all the employment in the bachelor's degree or higher group is for bachelor's degree occupations. It accounts for about a 12-percent share of total employment in the economy. Over half of the total 200-plus job titles are in this group. The occupations with the most jobs include construction managers, accountants, computer programmers and systems analysts, and engineers. The largest single occupation in the bachelor's degree category is elementary school teacher with some 11,000 to 12,000 employed.

While the most obvious benefit of higher education may be higher wages, it also brings more transferable skills that can ease the way through the ebbs and flows of the labor market. This tends to result in lower unemployment rates for those who hold college degrees. As our economy evolves, the need for highly-skilled workers will continue to grow. 📌

For a list of the occupations in the higher education occupations group, go to: <http://jobs.utah.gov/opencms/wi/pubs/trendlines/marapr08/bachelorshigher.xls>

Education

In Utah, 28 percent of the population has a bachelor's degree or beyond.

<i>First Professional Degree</i>	<i>Doctoral Degree</i>	<i>Master's Degree</i>
Dentists, General	Postsecondary Biological Science Teachers	Clergy
Family and General Practitioners	Clinical, Counseling, and School Psychologists	Educational, Vocational, and School Counselors
Lawyers	Postsecondary Education Teachers	Librarians
Pharmacists	Postsecondary Engineering Teachers	Mental Health and Substance Abuse Social Workers
Surgeons	Medical Scientists, Except Epidemiologists	Physical Therapists

<i>Bachelor's plus Work Experience</i>	<i>Bachelor's Degree</i>
Chief Executives	Accountants and Auditors
Financial Managers	Computer Programmers
General and Operations Managers	Construction Managers
Management Analysts	Elementary School Teachers
Sales Managers	Secondary School Teachers

